

**SEC. 9. OLIVENHAIN WATER STORAGE PROJECT LOAN GUARANTEE.**

(a) **LOAN GUARANTEE.**—The Secretary of the Interior may guarantee a loan made to either the Olivenhain Municipal Water District (in this section referred to as the "District") or to a nongovernmental developer selected by the District, for building and financing the Olivenhain Water Storage Project in northern San Diego County, California. The amount of a loan guaranteed under this subsection may not exceed \$70,000,000. Before making any such loan guarantee, the Secretary shall evaluate the design and justification for the proposed project. The Secretary may make such a loan guarantee only after the Secretary determines that the proposed project is economically feasible and the design for the proposed project is technically and environmentally adequate.

(b) **INTEREST RATE.**—Any loan guaranteed under subsection (a) shall bear interest at a rate agreed upon by the borrower and lender.

(c) **OBLIGATION OF UNITED STATES.**—Any loan guarantee under this section shall constitute an obligation, in accordance with the terms and conditions of such guarantee, of the United States Government, and the full faith and credit of the United States is hereby pledged to full performance of the obligation.

(d) **SECURITY.**—

(1) **RESERVE FUND AND COMMITMENT OF DISTRICT REVENUES.**—To ensure the repayment of any loan guaranteed under this section and as a condition of providing the guarantee, the Secretary of the Interior shall require that—

(A) the borrower establish and maintain, with a trustee designated by the Secretary, a reserve fund in the amount of 115 percent of the next year's principal and interest payments on the loan;

(B) the District agree to use its revenues to make all payments required under the terms of the loan prior to any payment by the United States under the guarantee, and to make those payments through the trustee designated under subparagraph (A); and

(C) the trustee designated under subparagraph (A) agree to use all amounts received for repayment of the loan to repay the loan.

(2) **RESERVE FUND REQUIREMENTS.**—The reserve fund under this subsection shall be established under terms that provide that—

(A) all moneys in the reserve fund shall constitute a trust fund for the repayment of the loan guaranteed under subsection (a); and

(B) the reserve fund shall be administered in accordance with and pursuant to provisions agreed upon by the borrower and lender for the loan guaranteed under subsection (a).

(3) **PAYMENT OF LOAN AMOUNTS.**—Proceeds from the loan guaranteed under subsection (a) shall—

(A) be deposited directly with the trustee designated by the Secretary of the Interior under paragraph (1)(A); and

(B) be disbursed by the trustee consistent with the terms of the loan.

(4) **QUALIFICATIONS OF TRUSTEE.**—Any trustee designated by the Secretary of the Interior under paragraph (1) must, at a minimum—

(A) be a trust company or a bank having the powers of a trust company;

(B) have a combined capital and surplus of at least \$100,000,000; and

(C) be otherwise subject to supervision or examination by a Federal agency.

**SEC. 10. FISH PASSAGE AND PROTECTIVE FACILITIES, ROGUE RIVER BASIN, OREGON.**

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to use otherwise available amounts to provide up to \$2,000,000 in financial assistance to the Medford Irrigation District and the

Rogue River Valley Irrigation District for the design and construction of fish passage and protective facilities at North Fork Little Butte Creek Diversion Dam and South Fork Little Butte Creek Diversion Dam in the Rogue River basin, Oregon, if the Secretary determines in writing that these facilities will enhance the fish recovery efforts currently underway at the Rogue River Basin Project, Oregon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE].

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of this legislation, the Water-Related Technical Corrections Act of 1997, and urge its adoption by the House of Representatives.

H.R. 2402 is a compilation of amendments to the Federal reclamation law designed to clarify authorities to the Bureau of Reclamation or existing provisions of law. This legislation was compiled after canvassing members of the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Resources, members of the Western Water Caucus, and the Bureau of Reclamation about any such needed changes.

Let me stress that most of these provisions are being sought to enhance water management capabilities at locations in several different states, such as Oregon, California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and move its adoption.

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Chairman of the House Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power, Mr. DOOLITTLE, for his many efforts this year on behalf of Oregon farmers. For the past year, he has worked diligently to help further the cause of common-sense solutions to the complex water conflicts in the West. Today's bill exemplifies his commitment to advancing this cause. H.R. 2402, the Water-Related Technical Corrections Act, contains a provision for Oregon farmers that can only be described as a win-win. It helps farmers in southern Oregon by stabilizing their operations, protects endangered and threatened anadromous fish runs, and provides substantial benefits to the adjacent federal Bureau of Reclamation (the Bureau) project.

The bill will provide financial assistance to the Medford Irrigation District and Rogue River Valley Irrigation District (the Districts), both located in the Rogue River basin in southwest Oregon, for the construction of fish passage and protective facilities. Despite the Bureau's desire to assist in this effort, the Interior Solicitor's Office provided a legal opinion in August stating that the Bureau does not have Congressional authority to provide financial assistance to the Districts. Without the authority granted by H.R. 2402, the Bureau will be able to provide technical assistance for the engineering designs of the improvements, but will not be able to assist with the implementation of the needed facilities. Several weeks ago, I was contacted by the Bureau's Boise field office to assist in granting this authority. With the help of Chairman DOOLITTLE, we are accomplishing this objective today.

The North Fork Little Butte Creek Diversion Dam is located in the North Fork Little Butte Creek about one mile upstream from the confluence with the South Fork and diverts water to the Medford Main Canal. The South Fork Little Butte Creek Diversion Dam is located on the South Fork Little Butte Creek about one mile upstream from the confluence with the North Fork, and diverts water from the South Fork Little Butte Creek to the Medford Main Canal. North and South Fork Little Butte Creeks are notable for runs of summer and winter steelhead, spring chinook salmon, and coho salmon as well as native cutthroat and rainbow trout, and have been identified as critical spawning and rearing areas for coho salmon and steelhead.

Both diversion dams are jointly owned and operated by the Districts. Fish passage and protective facilities associated with both diversions are old, have deteriorated, and do not meet current requirements for fish passage as established by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Since the Rogue River Basin Project (the Project), a Federal Reclamation project, is appurtenant to those diversion dams, providing this assistance will ensure that improvements already made at the Project will be fully realized.

Once again, I would like to thank Chairman DOOLITTLE for working to include this minor provision in H.R. 2402. It represents the type of assistance that the federal government ought to be providing to irrigation districts struggling to comply with new regulations that have been imposed upon them, and ensures that the public interest in protecting fish runs is fulfilled.

I urge my colleagues to support this common-sense legislation.

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. DOOLITTLE] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2402, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the last two bills just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

**JIMMY CARTER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ACQUISITION**

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 669) to provide for the acquisition of the Plains Railroad Depot at the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site.

The Clerk read as follows: